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Around the Nation

Chicago Judge Limits U.S. Domestic Spying

CHICAGO, April 18 (AP) — A Federal judge today permanently banned the Federal Government from spying on domestic political groups in Chicago solely because they advocate civil disobedience or other illegal acts.

District Judge Susan Getzendanner said on Friday that she would change sections of a new F.B.I. policy on surveillance and infiltration of domestic political groups if the Government did not do so immediately. Ed Moran, a Government attorney, refused to say whether the ruling would be appealed.

Judge Getzendanner said the new guidelines violated a 1981 consent decree that barred spying on political groups unless there was evidence that violations of law were likely or intended. Her ruling applies only to Chicago.

The guidelines, issued last month by Attorney General William French Smith, permit surveillance and infiltration of domestic political groups that advocate violence or other illegal acts. The guidelines are a revision of rules set down during the Ford Administration banning spying in such cases.

The American Civil Liberties Union, the Alliance to End Repression and other civil rights groups challenged the guidelines.